

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 11 and 15-19 are pending. Claims 11 has been amended to clarify the claim language and correct antecedent basis issues.

A terminal disclaimer in view of U.S. Patent 6,554,133 and 6,695,141 to Kropf et al is hereby concurrently submitted. It is noted that the present application is a continuing application of Application Serial Number 09/614,140. The Examiner's attention is directed to the attached copy of the executed assignment assigning the entire right, title and interest to "any and all continuations" to the assignee.


The rejection of claims 11 and 15-19 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of Kropf et al. (U.S. Patent 6,554,133) and claim 1 of Kropf et al (U.S. Patent 6,695,141) is believed moot in view of the concurrently filed terminal disclaimers with respect to both Kropf patents. Withdrawal of the rejection is in order.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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